



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Anno 1664.

To quitt Rents of 37693 acres in Northumberland County at
12 p. ct. 4523 lbs tobo.

To ditto of 5589 acres more 0678 lbs. tobo.

Anno 1665.

To quitt rents of 37693 acres in Northumberland County at 12
p. ct. 4523 lbs. tobo.

To ditto of 5589 acres more 0678 lbs. tobo.

Major Robert Beverley and His Descendants.

BY W. G. STANARD.

(CONTINUED.)

The will of Major Robert Beverley, the original of which is on file at Middlesex Court-House, is as follows:

In the name of God, Amen.

I Robert Beverley of Mid'x Countie in Virg'na, being in Sound and perfect health, minde and memorie (praise be given to Allmighty God) yett considering the frailty of Man's life, Doe make this my last will and testament in Manner and form following, this present six and twentyeth day of August, 1686.

And first I bequeath my soule to God who gave it and my body to be buried in a decent maner at the direction of my executrix.

Item. My Will is that all my debts and dues be in convenient time paid after my decease.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my eldest sonne Peter Beverley and to his heirs for ever all that my land in Gloster Countie lyeing upon Pianketank River, betwix the Creek called Chiescake Creek, and Hoccadey's (alias Baysey's) Creek and adjoining to and included in a Patent, with Five hundred acres formerly by me sold and passed away to Mr. John Mann of Gloster countie by deed under my hand and seale. But in case my sonne Peter shall happen to dye without heirs of his body by him lawfully begotten, then my will is that my said land above mentioned

shall descend and goe and I give and bequeath the same to my second sonne Robert Beverley and to his heirs forever.

Item. I give to my second sonne Robert Beverley and to his heirs forever, All that my plantation and devident of land on Poropotank Creek in Gloster Countie containing nine hundred and twenty acres be the same more or less.

Item. I give unto my third sonne Harry Beverley and to his heirs forever, All that my Plantation and Devident of land situate in Rappahannock countie upon Gilson's Runne on which I have now a quarter situated and on which formerly Ralph Bodis was seated by me, containing by estimation according to the Patent thereof Sixteen hundred acres be the same more or less.

Item. I give unto my sonne John Beverley and to his heirs forever three thousand acres of land part of the Devident of land situate in Rappahannock Countie on both sydes a great runne and commonly called and known by the name of Beverley Parke and adjoining on the one part thereof to Buttons Rainge. The Said three thousand acres to be contiguous and in a square or long square or neer that figure and to be by him made choice of at the age of twenty-one years out of the whole tract, or within three years after my decease at his pleasure and the lines and bounds thereof * * * to suit his Choyce (for ascertaining the same) to be put upon the records of Rap'a Countie, New Kent Countie or in the Master secretaries office.

Item. I give unto my sonne William Beverley and to his heirs forever all that my two plantations and devidents of land in Mid'x Countie, situate on or near the Rappahannock River, betwix the lands and plantations of Maj. Gen'll Robert Smith and Coll. Christopher Wormley comonly called Griffin's Neck being all the lands purchased by me of Mr. Tho. Evans.

Item. I give unto my sonne Thomas Beverley three thousand acres of land part of the devident of land situate in Rapa. Countie and New Kent Countie on both Sydes a great runne and comonly called and known by the name of Beverley Parke, and adjoining on one part thereof to Button's Rainge, to him and his heirs forever. The said land to be laid out of the whole tract contiguous and in a long square or four square or as near such figure as the same may most conveniently be done and in such place & part of the said devident, next after his brother John Beverley's Choyce as he my said sonne Thomas shall desire to have the same land out, soe soon as he shall attaine to the age of twenty-one years, or immediately after his brother John's shall be ascertained by his first Choyce of his three thousand acres hereby this my will given to him.

Item. I give to my dear and loveing wife Catherine, for and during her Naturall life and in lieu of her full right of dower in and to my lands,

all that my Plantation and devident of land in Middlesex countie whereon I now live, situate on Rappahannock River, and purchased by me from Mr. Richard Parrott, Junior. Also one other Plantation and devident of land in Middlesex Countie situate on Pianketank River, and whereon I late lived, and now helled and knowed [*sic* in copy] by the name of Old Plantation, containing one hundred and sixty five acres according to the Patent thereof. Also all that my one halfe part of the one hundred acres of land and Plantation in Gloster Countie, for the whole if I happen to purchase the same before my death, comonly called and knowed by the name of North River quarter, and now held in partnership betwix my brother Col. John Armistead and myself, alwaies provided shee my said wife doth accept the same as in full of all her right of dower to all other my lands whatsoever. And after my said wife's decease I give and bequeath the said three Plantations and lands belonging to them to my daughter Catherine Beverley and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten, and in case of her dyeing without issue of her body lawfully begotten, or for failure of such issue, then to my sonne Robert Beverley and to his heirs forever.

Item. I give unto the Childe that my wife goeth with, be it male or female, and to its heirs forever all other my lands and Plantations not allready by this my will given and bequeathed, and for want of such childe or heir of its body lawfully begotten, that then and in such case I give all other my lands not in this my last will by me expressly given and named, unto my oldest sonne Peter Beverley and unto his heirs Male of his body lawfully begotten, and for want of such heirs Male of his body, then to my sonne Robert Beverley and to his heirs Male of his body lawfully begotten, and for want of such heirs Male of his body lawfully begotten, then to my sonne William Beverley and to his heirs forever.

Item. I give to my daughter Mary Beverley one hundred and fifty pounds sterling money to be paid to her within one year after her day of marriage or at the age of one and twenty years which shall first happen.

Item. I give unto my daughter Catherine Beverley two hundred pounds sterling to be paid to her within one year after her day of marriage or at her age of twenty-one years which shall first happen.

Item. My will is and I doe hereby order and lend unto my dear and loving wife Catherine Beverley for and during her whole life-time all the household goods I shall dye possessed of at my dwelling Plantation, to say, all my Linen, Woollen, bedding, plate, pewter, brass, Ironware, Cubbard, tables, chayres, stools, bedds or bedsteads with all other sort of household goods, household stuffe, working tools within doors & without, ploughs, Carts, Cartwheels, plough gheare or Cart gheare or horse harness and all other household Stuffe & Lumber whatsoever belonging to the house, barne, dary, Store & Plantation wherever and wherein I

now live and which shall be in dayly use and occupation for and towards the same at the time of my death. All which my will is shall be shortly after my death duly & apart from my other personall estate Inventoried & appraised and wholly left in the possession, use & occupation of my said wife for and during her whole naturall life free and without being charged for the use thereof. And after her decease I give all and every part thereof unto my two daughters Mary & Catherine or the survivor of them to be divided into thirds, to say, one third part thereof to my daughter Mary & two thirds part thereof to my daughter Catherine.

Item. My will is that all other my personall estate whatsoever, whether in Middlesex Countie, Glo'tr Countie, Rapa. Countie or elsewhere in Virginia of what nature, and kinde soever, whether Slaves, Servants, Cattle, horses, sheep, merchandizing goods, debts or dues or whatsoever else may happen to be or belong to me at the time of my death in what part of the world soever and can or may be accounted part of my personall estate, that the same and every part thereof be, with all possible convenience, duly inventoried and valued and appraised by two or three such good men as shall be nominated and appointed by Middlesex County Court to appraise the same upon their oaths, out of which goods, chattels, cattle &c. my will is my just debts, my funerall expenses & legacies here in this my will given be first paid and satisfied; and the remainder thereof my will is that the same be divided and disposed in equall part & portion betwix my wife and children, either in Specificall kinde or in money Ste'lg, according to their valuation, at the Choyce & election of my executor or executors hereinafter named within one year after the probate of this my last Will, or eighteen months after my death, which shall first happen.

Item. My will is and I doe hereby appoint my deare and loveing wife Catherine, my full and sole executrix of this my last will and testament soe long as she shall remain a Widdow, without giving any securieties for such executorship, but whenever she shall happen to marry or shall remove from Virginia, then my will is that in case she shall not before her removeing herself from Virginia (on any pretense whatsoever) or before her being married give good bond with two at least good & able securieties to be bound jointly and severally in two thousand pounds sterling, at the least to the County Court of Mid'x on behalf of my Children & Legatees in this my will for ye due executing and performing of this my last will according to the true intent, meaning and purport thereof. That immediately after such departure out of the Countrie or such marriage without having first given such securieties as aforesaid, this executorship hereby given her by this my will shall and doth immediately from that time forever thereafter cease and determine. And my farther will is that from & after ye said time or times of my wife's departure out of this countree or day of marriage which shall first happen, without having given such bond & securieties as aforesaid, That my three sonnes Peter,

Robert, and William Beverley, and the survivors or survivor of them shall and I doe hereby nominate and make them joint Executors of this my last will and testament.

In testimonie whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and put to my seale. And doe declare this to be my last will and testament which is contained and written on one sheet of paper on both sydes with my owne hand writing close written, with the addition only of those six lines in the second sheet contained. Hereby also utterly revoking and making void all other wills and testaments by me at any time heretofore made. In presence of these severall witnesses by me called and desired to subscribe their names as witnesses.

ROBERT BEVERLEY. [Seal].

Sealed, delivered and published in the presence of us:

RALPH WORMELEY.
ROBERT SMITH.
WM. KITTO.
WALTER KEOBLE.
THOMAS BALLARD.

Md. That at a Courte held for ye County of Middlesex ye 4th of April, 1687, Ralph Wormeley, Esqr; Mr. Robert Smith, Walter Keoble, & Thomas Ballard made oathe they see Maj'r Robert Beverley signe, seal & publish ye above written as his last will & testament, and that he was then in perfect health, strength, and memory.

Recorded

CHR. ROBINSON, Clk.

A true copy [1892.]

Test

[Signed] B. B. CHOWNING, Clerk,
Middlesex County Court.

The original will, for the copy of which here used, the Society is indebted to the kindness of Mr. Chowning, bears a well preserved impression in red wax, of an armorial seal—quarterly, in the first quarter a rose. This may be identical with a coat ascribed to Beverley in English heraldic works: "*Quarterly ar. and gu. a rose countercharged, barbed vert.*"

William Beverley, of "Blandfield," grandson of Major Robert Beverley, writing in 1739 to his London merchant, says that he sends him a seal of considerable value, which he wishes recut (if the cost is not too great). It was made in 1723, but had the wrong arms engraved on it;

"ye arms my father [Robt. Beverley, Jr.] used are a Red Rose seeded and barbed in a field Ermine w'th an unicorns head for ye Crest, and not the three bulls heads" (*William and Mary Quarterly*, III, 234). At York Courthouse is a package of clerk's bonds, which doubtless came originally from the Nelson house, and one of these, the bond of William Beverley as clerk of Essex about 1736, bears a red wax seal with a perfectly preserved impression of the seal here spoken of, bearing the arms: *Ar. a chevron sa. on a chief of the second three bulls heads cabossed of the first.* It is probable that the proper arms were never cut, as Burke in the "Landed Gentry" says that the descendants of William Beverley, who removed from "Blandfield" to England not long before the Revolution, bore the arms last described. A recent work on book-plates states that there are in existence armored book-plates of William, Robert and Harry Beverley. It is hoped that a description of the arms on these plates may be sent to the editor of this Magazine.

When the floor of the lower church of Christ Church parish, Middlesex, was renewed a few years ago, the tomb of the first wife of Major Robert Beverley was discovered. It bore the following inscription:

Here lyeth interred the Bodi of
 Mrs. Mary Beverly, wife of
 Major Robert Beverly
 Mother of nine sons & three daughters
 Who departed this Life the 1st Day of
 June 1678 aged fortie one yeares & three
 Months, having been married to him
 12 years & 2 months—and was
 A careful Mother teaching Vertuous Life
 Happy and making happy when a wife
 Religious to Example, may all strive
 To imitate her vertues whilst alive.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)